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Maryland
Department of Economic &
Employment Development

LABOR MARKET DIMENSIONS

A Monthly Report on the Dynamics of the Labor Market in Maryland

July, 1989

Maryland Department of Economic and Employment Development
Office of Labor Market Analysis and Information
1100 North Eutaw Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

William Donald Schaefer, Governor
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LABOR MARKET DIMENSIONS
JULY, 1989

MARYLAND

Maryland's strong labor market showed signs of continued improvement in July as unemployment dropped to 3.9 percent of the labor force, down from June's 4.3 percent. The summer's influx of new and seasonal workers that had pushed up unemployment in June was largely absorbed by the economy in July.

Continuing a growth trend, the state's civilian labor force swelled to 2,614,132 persons in July. The number of employed Marylanders rose over the month by 55,942, while the jobless rolls receded by 8,574. An estimated 2,511,630 persons were working in July--a high for the year, and, an increase of about 100,300 from last year. The number of unemployed (102,502) declined by nearly 14,500 from the previous July, while at the same time, the jobless rate was lowered by 0.7 percentage points. This July marks the state's lowest unemployment rate for that month since 1970.

Throughout the state labor force activity was on the whole positive. Almost all jurisdictions recorded an upturn in resident employment. Several counties, however, did experience a rise in unemployment levels as a number of vacation and retooling shutdowns among some manufacturers resulted in some temporary layoffs.

Nationally, unemployment declined slightly from 5.5 percent in June to 5.3 percent in July. The number of employed persons was up over the month, while the number of unemployed was down. Last July joblessness in the U.S. stood at 5.5 percent.

	July 1989	June 1989	July 1988
Civilian Labor Force	2,614,132	2,566,764	2,528,290
Total Employment	2,511,630	2,455,688	2,411,321
Total Unemployment	102,502	111,076	116,969
Unemployment Rate	3.9	4.3	4.6
National Civilian Unemployment Rate	5.3	5.5	5.5

The monthly establishment survey for Maryland reported a net loss of some 8,300 jobs in July as gains throughout most of the private sector were easily eclipsed by large seasonal losses in state and local government education. Last July nonagricultural payroll employment receded by 2,000 over the month.

Manufacturing employment dropped by 300 between June and July. Durable goods producers added 300 workers while nondurables lost 600 (primarily due to vacation shutdowns among several apparel producers).

Nonmanufacturers in the private sector generally fared well over the month. While mining showed no change, the construction industry topped all gainers, adding 3,700 new positions. Retail trade had the second highest July growth, adding 1,900, while the much smaller wholesale trade rose by 200. Services expanded by 1,800, finance, insurance, and real estate by 1,100, and transportation, communication, and public utilities added 400. Public sector trends were dominated by the continued summer vacation layoffs of education staff. Federal employment grew by 100 jobs, while state government declined by 3,900, and local governments dropped 13,300 workers. All state and local government losses were sustained by schools, colleges, and universities, as noneducation employment rose over the month.

Since last July nonfarm employment in Maryland has risen by 27,700. All gains occurred among nonmanufacturers, as factory employment declined by a total of 3,800. Durable goods employment decreased by 3,500, almost all due to losses in transportation equipment and electric/electronic equipment production. Makers of nondurble goods lost 300, as employment in apparel/textile products and rubber/plastics products declined.

Nonmanufacturers expanded by a total of 31,500 over the year. Some industry groups lost employment, however. Mining dropped by 100; transportation, communication, and public utilities lost 500; and construction declined by 900, despite growth in heavy construction contracting. Strongest growth occurred in services, where 14,000 jobs were added. Sizable gains in health services were a factor. Trade was also a major source of new employment, as retail jobs increased by 5,800 (a significant number in general merchandise stores), and wholesale added 2,200. Finance, insurance, and real estate rose by 2,600, with much of the increase in nonbank credit agencies. Gains occurred throughout the public sector, with federal government adding 2,100 (mostly in civilian defense department employment), state government gaining 1,400, and local governments increasing by 4,900 (the majority of which was in education).

MARYLAND
NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT* BY INDUSTRY
BY PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT
(IN THOUSANDS)
JULY 1989

Major Industry Group	July 1989	June 1989	July 1988
Total Nonagricultural Employment	2131.9	2140.2	2104.2
Manufacturing	206.8	207.1	210.6
Durable Goods	109.4	109.1	112.9
Nondurable Goods	97.4	98.0	97.7
Nonmanufacturing	1925.1	1933.1	1893.6
Mining	1.7	1.7	1.8
Construction	166.4	162.7	167.3
Transportation, Communication, and Public Utilities	96.3	95.9	96.8
Wholesale and Retail Trade	546.8	544.7	538.8
Wholesale Trade	114.8	114.6	112.6
Retail Trade	432.0	430.1	426.2
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	134.5	133.4	131.9
Services	586.8	585.0	572.8
Total Government	392.6	409.7	384.2
Federal	134.3	134.2	132.2
State	89.2	93.1	87.8
Local	169.1	182.4	164.2

* The count is of jobs, not workers. It includes full and part-time wage earners employed during pay period including the 12th of the month.

NOTE: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.

Current data preliminary; previous month revised.

Additional industry detail available upon request.

Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES
JULY 1989

Major Industry Grouping	AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS		AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS		AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS	
	July 1989	June 1989	July 1989	June 1989	July 1989	June 1989
MARYLAND						
Manufacturing	41.4	41.1	$450.85	$445.52	$10.89	$10.84
Durable Goods	42.3	42.1	488.57	487.52	11.55	11.58
Lumber and Wood Products	40.4	39.9	342.19	338.35	8.47	8.48
Furniture and Fixtures	42.2	40.6	422.84	402.35	10.02	9.91
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	45.1	45.7	491.59	504.53	10.90	11.04
Primary Metal Industries	43.0	43.2	652.74	664.42	15.18	15.38
Fabricated Metals	39.8	40.2	399.19	402.00	10.03	10.00
Machinery, Exc. Electrical	41.1	42.0	504.71	509.04	12.28	12.12
Electronic and Electrical Equipment	45.2	43.6	448.38	428.59	9.92	9.83
Transportation Equipment	40.7	40.0	574.28	563.60	14.11	14.09
Instruments and Related	39.4	40.4	372.33	387.84	9.45	9.60
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Indus.	39.2	38.9	354.76	350.88	9.05	9.02
Nondurable Goods	40.4	40.2	412.08	405.62	10.20	10.09
Food and Kindred Products	42.1	40.4	399.11	380.16	9.48	9.41
Apparel and Textile Products	37.5	37.1	270.00	255.99	7.20	6.90
Paper and Allied Products	40.6	42.4	390.57	402.80	9.62	9.50
Printing and Publishing	38.3	38.5	472.62	467.78	12.34	12.15
Chemicals and Allied Products	42.2	42.3	503.45	508.02	11.93	12.01
Rubber and Plastic Products	43.9	44.1	403.88	409.25	9.20	9.28
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA						
Manufacturing	41.3	41.5	$476.60	$475.18	$11.54	$11.45
Durable Goods	41.8	42.0	509.54	511.14	12.19	12.17
Nondurable Goods	40.7	40.9	437.93	433.54	10.76	10.60

REGIONAL ECONOMICS

BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA

Unemployment abated in the Baltimore Metropolitan Area in July as employment grew and the labor force expanded to 1,246,625 persons. Area joblessness receded from 4.8 percent in June to 4.3 percent in July--the lowest figure for July since 1980 (when earliest comparable data are available). The number and percent of unemployed was significantly lower than a year ago, while employment had increased considerably. All jurisdictions experienced a rise in the level of employment in July, however, two counties also recorded modest gains in unemployment. Vacation shutdowns in apparel and footwear production were responsible for much of this increase. Howard County (along with Montgomery and Worcester) posted the state's lowest unemployment rate for July, as it has for each month this year.

The establishment survey for the Baltimore Metropolitan Area registered a decline of 1,800 nonfarm jobs in July. Almost all the loss occurred in state and local government education. Manufacturing was up 500 over the month, despite a slight drop in nondurable goods employment (due to the aforementioned layoffs). Nonmanufacturing jobs were reduced by 2,300. Transportation, communication, and public utilities experienced a moderate drop, while mining and retail trade were both unchanged. All other private sector industry groups rose. Total public employment declined. Since last July the BMA's payrolls have increased by 12,700. Manufacturers, however, lost a total of 3,600 jobs in the past year, all in durable goods factories. Electric/electronic equipment and transportation equipment producers were primarily responsible for the loss. Nonmanufacturing concerns added 16,300 positions over the year, as all industries, with the exception of mining, grew.

MARYLAND'S D.C. SUBURBS

The labor force in Maryland's Washington suburbs continued its sometimes slow but steady growth trend, reaching 1,037,207 persons in July. Resident employment swelled, while the number of jobless dropped over the month. The area unemployment rate declined from 3.4 percent in June to 2.9 percent in July. Jobless rates were uniformly low throughout the region, with Montgomery County tied with two other counties for the state's lowest unemployment figure. Unemployment was down from the 3.6 percent recorded a year ago and was, in fact, the lowest rate for July since comparable statistics began in 1975.

The metro area's nonagricultural payrolls declined by 5,900 in July. Manufacturers reported a net gain of 200 jobs, but 6,100 were lost in nonmanufacturing. State and local governments were responsible for almost all the loss, although transportation, communication, and public utilities recorded a slight drop as well. Mining was unchanged over the month, while the remaining industry groups rose. Services was the biggest gainer. Since July 1988 nonfarm employment has expanded by 16,600. Growth occurred in both manufacturing and nonmanufacturing. All industry groups increased, with the exception of mining and transportation, communication, and public utilities, which declined.

WESTERN MARYLAND

Unemployment in the western Maryland region inched downward 0.1 percent in July to 6.2 percent--a level far below past figures for the same month. The labor force rose to 109,463 as employment climbed, while unemployment was about unchanged. A slight increase in unemployment in Washington County was attributed to a brief layoff in the apparel/textile products industry. Compared with last July, area unemployment was up, unemployment had dropped, and the rate of unemployment was down from 7.9 percent.

Western Maryland's establishment survey reported an over the month loss of 800 payroll jobs. Both manufacturing and nonmanufacturing sustained losses. Temporary layoffs depressed nondurable goods employment, while summer vacation in public education reduced government jobs. Construction and transportation, communication, and public utilities were up marginally in July, while other industry groups showed no change. Nonfarm employment had expanded by 1,600 over a year ago. Manufacturing in the durable goods area declined by 400 since last July, much of it in transportation equipment. Nonmanufacturers rose by 2,000, with all industry groups gaining except transportation, communication, and public utilities, which dropped slightly.

BALANCE OF STATE

The labor force expanded to 220,835 persons in the Balance of State region in July as both the employment and unemployment components increased. Areawide unemployment rose a marginal 0.1 of one percent to 5.3 percent. Trends varied widely among counties. All but two registered gains in resident employment, while unemployment was more unstable. The region was responsible for both the state's highest and lowest jobless rates, as well as various levels in between. Vacation layoffs in electronics and food processing, and new model year retooling shutdowns by automakers in Wilmington, Delaware were primarily responsible for the area's instability. Labor force activity since last July has been positive, however: employment has increased, while both the number and rate of unemployment have declined.

Nonagricultural payroll employment declined by 200 between June and July. No change occurred in either durable or nondurable goods manufacturing. Among nonmanufacturers, trade and services were up over the month, while construction, transportation, communication, and public utilities, and finance, insurance, and real estate were flat. Total government decreased due to losses in local government. At place employment was up by only 300 jobs over the year. Growth occurred in services and government, while construction, trade, and transportation, communication, and public utilities all lost employment. Manufacturing and finance, insurance, and real estate were unchanged.

NONAGRICULTURAL PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT* BY INDUSTRY - BY PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT
(in thousands)
BY REGION--JULY 1989

Major Industry Grouping	BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA		MARYLAND PORTION D.C. SUBURBS		WESTERN MARYLAND		BALANCE OF STATE	
	July 1989	June 1989	July 1989	June 1989	July 1989	June 1989	July 1989	June 1989
Total Nonagricultural Employment	1135.0	1136.8	763.6	769.5	91.1	91.9	143.8	144.0
Manufacturing	130.4	129.9	36.8	36.6	15.3	15.6	24.4	24.4
Durable Goods	73.6	73.0	18.7	18.4	7.4	7.4	9.6	9.6
Nondurable Goods	56.8	56.9	18.1	18.2	7.9	8.2	14.8	14.8
Nonmanufacturing	1004.6	1006.9	726.8	732.9	75.8	76.3	119.4	119.6
Construction	79.0	77.5	69.6	68.9	6.8	6.7	10.8	10.8
Transportation & Public Utilities	55.7	56.1	28.1	28.3	5.1	5.2	7.6	7.6
Wholesale and Retail Trade	279.3	279.2	205.0	204.7	25.9	25.9	38.4	37.5
Wholesale Trade	68.3	68.2	36.7	36.5	-	-	-	-
Retail Trade	211.0	211.0	168.3	168.2	-	-	-	-
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	78.7	78.3	46.3	45.7	3.4	3.4	5.4	5.4
Services and Mining	306.3	306.2	226.7	225.1	20.4	20.4	33.8	33.4
Total Government	205.6	209.6	151.1	160.2	14.2	14.7	23.4	24.9
Federal	53.5	53.2	71.8	71.7	2.1	1.9	6.8	6.8
State	65.4	65.5	15.4	18.6	4.4	4.7	4.5	4.3
Local	86.7	90.9	63.9	69.9	7.7	8.1	12.1	13.8

*The count is of jobs, not workers. It includes full and part-time wage earners employed during pay period including the 12th of the month.

NOTE: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.

Additional industry detail available upon request. Current data preliminary; previous month revised.

Prepared in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT
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STATE OF MARYLAND
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT
BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE

JULY, 1989

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE		EMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT		UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	JULY	JUNE*	JULY	JUNE*	JULY	JUNE*	JULY	JUNE*	JULY' 88
MARYLAND	2,614,132	2,566,764	2,511,630	2,455,688	102,502	111,076	3.9	4.3	4.6
BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN AREA	1,246,625	1,223,038	1,193,019	1,164,814	53,606	58,224	4.3	4.8	4.9
BALTIMORE CITY	357,742	352,461	334,378	326,473	23,364	25,988	6.5	7.4	7.6
ANNE ARUNDEL	223,443	218,866	216,733	211,609	6,710	7,257	3.0	3.3	3.4
BALTIMORE	403,741	396,635	389,098	379,899	14,643	16,736	3.6	4.2	4.3
CARROLL	64,596	63,253	62,914	61,427	1,682	1,826	2.6	2.9	3.0
HARFORD	85,376	82,697	81,045	79,129	4,331	3,568	5.1	4.3	4.6
HOWARD	95,504	93,313	93,127	90,926	2,377	2,387	2.5	2.6	2.8
QUEEN ANNE'S	16,221	15,813	15,724	15,352	497	461	3.1	2.9	3.3
D. C. AREA	1,037,207	1,022,531	1,006,832	987,655	30,375	34,876	2.9	3.4	3.6
CALVERT	24,081	23,756	23,194	22,753	887	1,003	3.7	4.2	5.0
CHARLES	49,929	49,057	48,465	47,542	1,464	1,515	2.9	3.1	4.0
FREDERICK	80,281	78,716	77,785	76,303	2,496	2,413	3.1	3.1	3.5
MONTGOMERY	443,938	437,295	433,059	424,810	10,879	12,485	2.5	2.9	3.0
PRINCE GEORGE'S	438,979	433,707	424,329	416,247	14,650	17,460	3.3	4.0	4.2
WESTERN MARYLAND	109,463	107,315	102,626	100,514	6,837	6,801	6.2	6.3	7.9
ALLEGANY	34,048	33,565	31,133	30,634	2,915	2,931	8.6	8.7	9.3
GARRETT	13,963	13,544	12,995	12,462	968	1,082	6.9	8.0	10.2
WASHINGTON	61,452	60,206	58,498	57,418	2,954	2,788	4.8	4.6	6.6
BALANCE OF STATE	220,835	213,879	209,152	202,706	11,683	11,173	5.3	5.2	6.0
CAROLINE	14,238	14,419	13,739	13,840	499	579	3.5	4.0	4.2
CECIL	37,101	35,865	33,607	33,660	3,494	2,205	9.4	6.1	8.6
DORCHESTER	18,345	17,785	16,816	16,527	1,529	1,258	8.3	7.1	8.9
KENT	9,656	9,333	9,118	8,986	538	347	5.6	3.7	10.0
ST. MARY'S	40,583	39,067	38,943	37,190	1,640	1,877	4.0	4.8	4.9
SOMERSET	12,230	12,475	11,450	11,309	780	1,166	6.4	9.3	7.5
TALBOT	17,228	16,937	16,676	16,303	552	634	3.2	3.7	2.6
WICOMICO	41,710	41,291	39,789	38,934	1,921	2,357	4.6	5.7	5.9
WORCESTER	29,744	26,707	29,014	25,957	730	750	2.5	2.8	3.2
UNITED STATES [1]	126,238,000	125,569,000	119,502,000	118,719,000	6,736,000	6,850,000	5.3	5.5	5.5

*Estimates for the state are revised.

1 Source: U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

NOTE: Figures may not add due to rounding. These are estimates relating to the week of the 12th of each month. The count is of persons not jobs. All data are not seasonally adjusted.

Maryland
Department of Economic &
Employment Development

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LAB 441

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